

DEMPSEY TELLS JEFFRIES HE'LL SOON RESUME BOXING

Title Holder Meets Boyhood Idol for First Time and Relates His Training Plans and Eagerness for More Ring Action—How Dempsey Was Surprised at Dropping Willard With One Wallop.

By Robert Edgren.

JACK DEMPSEY'S first move in Los Angeles, where he is starting on three months of moving picture work that is to earn him over half a million dollars, was to take a trip out to see Jim Jeffries on his ranch in the San Fernando Valley.

"I always wanted to know Jeffries," said Dempsey. "When I was a boy, before I ever began fighting, I used to dream of being a fighter like Jeffries. Everybody used to talk about his fighting then. I think if I hadn't heard so much about Jeffries and his strength and his squariness in the ring I never would have thought of boxing. I wanted to be a man like Jeffries. That's always been my ambition. He was my idol when I was a boy, and I want to know him."

Jeffries was clad in blue overalls and a cap, going through his usual day's work on the ranch, when Dempsey drove up. The big ex-champion smiled widely as he came to meet the new title holder.

"I knew you was big enough to do it," he said, giving Jack a stout grip and the once over from head to heels. "No, you have the hand of a fighter, all right, and the look of a fighter. I like your looks. You're a real champion."

Dempsey, who isn't as sun-baked as Toledo, actually turned red.

"Thanks," he said.

"He carries himself like a fighter," said Jeffries, turning to me. "I like to see a fellow go along with a swing like that, light on his feet."

"What did you weigh at Toledo?" he asked Dempsey, suddenly.

"Just 134½," said Dempsey. "I weighed over 200 a couple of weeks before the fight but somehow the weight came off every day. I expected to put on some weight the last couple of days, resting, but the drying out made me lose more. I couldn't put on a pound."

"Guess you were nervous," grinned Jeffries.

"No," said Dempsey. "I was on edge, of course, but I felt sure of winning. The 134½ didn't worry me." "Big enough," grunted Jeffries. "Big enough to beat any man in the world, with the speed and the right stuff in you. That was just Sharkey's weight, and he gave me more trouble than any man I ever fought. Never saw Sharkey when he was good, did you?"

Dempsey admitted that Sharkey was a little before his time.

"Well, he was a terror," said Jeffries. "He was strong as a little bull, and he was the fastest man of his size I ever saw. He never stopped tearing in and fighting, and he was a tough one to stop. I guess you went into Willard the way Sharkey used to go at me. Only Tom never could put me down, and you flattened the big fellow. You must have hit him an awful punch—the first one."

HOW DEMPSEY FOOLED WILLARD.

"I never expected to put him down so soon," said Dempsey, laughing. "It didn't look possible. I went into the ring intending to get him in a hurry if I could, and if I couldn't, to turn away from him and make him come after me, and use my speed to keep him moving fast for several rounds until he got a little tired. Then I was going to try again. He looked too big and strong to be knocked down with a punch. Don't let any one tell you Willard wasn't in shape. He was as good as he ever was. What beat him was my turning aside two or three times and stopping away from him. He thought would make a rush for him and mix it up right away. That was the kind of a fight he expected. When I half turned away he was puzzled. He couldn't understand it. Then he forgot his plan and came after me and I whirled and caught him just right. It's funny to see a man as big as Willard drop when he's hit by a man as small as I. I didn't expect to see him fall, and nobody was more surprised than I was when he went down. The first time I hit him with a punch, made him fall. After that I expected to see him drop every time I hit him, and wondered what was holding him up. It's funny how confident a fellow feels after he's put a big fellow down once."

"Didn't he put up any fight at all?" asked Jeffries.

"Sure he did," said Jack. "I'm glad he didn't and a good one on me before I got to him. When he was all in and slow and dazed he hit me a few punches that shook me up pretty badly. If all the steam hadn't been taken out of him by the knockdowns it might have been a different story. A fellow as big as Willard can't hit you without hurting you. But his punches were slow then and he was too late to do anything."

DEMPSEY THINKS BECKETT WOULD BE EASY.

"How about this fellow Beckett? Got any line on him?"

"Yes," said Dempsey. "He's strong and can take a lot of hammering, but he's slow."

Jeffries shook his head. "He won't give you any trouble then. It's all right to be tough, but you've got to have speed with it. Now Sharkey was as tough as nails but he was fast, too. It used to discourage me to hit him hard enough to lift him off his feet, and then have him bounce back at me quick as a cat. You'll lick all the tough ones easily enough. The only man who'll give you any trouble will be some fellow like Sharkey if there ever are any more like him. You want to take good care of yourself and make your pile now, because you can't tell when some young fellow will come along and land on you the way you did on Willard. Get yours and then you can laugh at the world if you ever lose the title."

Here Jeff led the way into his smoking room and asked Dempsey what he'd like in the way of a liquid refreshment.

"I don't drink a thing," said Jack.

"Smoker?"

"No."

"Well, now you're a movie actor I

BEST SPORTING PAGE IN NEW YORK

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JUDGE LANDIS ASKED TO TAKE CHARGE OF INVESTIGATION

Owner Comiskey of White Sox, Whose Club Is Under a Cloud, Also Asked to Help All He Can to Bring About Complete Probe of Baseball Scandal

By Hugh S. Fullerton.
(Copyright, 1919, by H. S. Fullerton.)

PRACTICALLY every owner and manager of major league ball clubs has rushed to the front declaring that they are all eager to assist in the work of driving gamblers out of baseball and cleaning up the good name of the sport. Some object to any further expose of the recent world's series and the attendant scandal which has become an annual part of the show. The charges which seem to have originated with those who are in the business of gambling on baseball extend deeper than the world's series. The most threat of all the charges is not connected with the series. It is the claim made last July by a professional gambler to another that he had three of the Chicago White Sox on his payroll and that they would, for a consideration of \$200 a week each, throw one game a week as selected by him.

This may not have been true. The Chicago gambler to whom the proposition was made did not believe it and refused to enter into it. As deeply as I have been able to dig into the world's series scandal, this seems to have been the starting point from which all the scandalous stories have spread and it is used in bolstering up other charges.

The demand for an investigation is growing all over the country. Nothing less than a complete investigation will suffice. I have asked Judge Knosow M. Landis whether he will accept the responsibility of conducting an investigation if the gamblers of baseball are willing to submit the entire matter to him and assist him in bringing witnesses before him. I have asked Comiskey to use all his influence to bring about this investigation as quickly as possible. There is small use to ask Ray Johnson because Johnson feels that any step he might take in the matter would instantly be construed to be an attack by him on Comiskey.

Johnson has been the strongest opponent of gambling ever since he has been in office. One of the big things in which I have always stood by him has been his fight against the gamblers, and some of Johnson's troubles with club owners have grown out of his activity. I am assured that John-

son would have taken steps in this scandal immediately after the series but for the unfortunate right-out-of-himself and three club owners, which would have resulted in a misunderstanding of his motives.

No matter what the club owners may think of the world's series scandal, a full and complete investigation is certain, and no matter what the result of that may be it is sure that the gamblers will be suppressed. Letters scoring me for writing about the scandal come pouring in, together with a few offering further evidence, which I am trying to investigate. Much of it is hearsay and not worth much, and the name of one player never before mentioned has been dragged into the matter.

I have no proof that the players accused in these rumors and stories are guilty. But one thing is certain. Gamblers stated that they had "put over" the thing and they solicited capital from others on the ground that they could control the players. This solicitation was carried on not only just prior to and during the world's series, but during the playing season and in their club houses. The Chicago White Sox were not the only team mentioned.

This alone justifies a deep investigation and a chance for the players to prove their innocence.

The charge that these stories were inspired by disgruntled gamblers because the dope went wrong in the world's series will not stand up for the simple reason that the stories were told before a game was played. The thing has been growing rapidly. The powers of baseball appear to have overlooked the point. The fact is that the same rumors that stirred before the last world's series have been active around before other series. Before the series between the Chicago and Boston clubs, the gamblers had "reached" one of the club players. The result was a big splash of betting. I investigated the thing for a week and learned that the gamblers who started the rumor were the ones who were betting the other way. They circulated that rumor in order to draw out the reluctant Philadelphia money.

During the series between the Giants and the Red Sox a sudden rumor was spread. It was to the effect that certain Tammany politicians had sided with the gamblers. The result was a big rush of foolish New York money. An investigation showed that the gamblers who were spread-

KOOKS & SLICES

John Pollock and Gossip

Shuttling Levinsky, the legitimate light heavyweight champion, and Clay Turner, the fast Indian fighter, who fought the hardest ten-round bout between big men ever witnessed in Detroit, a few weeks ago, have been signed up for another bout in that city on the night of Jan. 7. Three clubs there were after the bout, but as Billy Rooks, the new matchmaker of the Detroit A. C., made the fighters the best offer he succeeded in landing the contest. Both men are great favorites in Detroit, as they both are fighters who keep slugging away continuously.

Met Cooper, who broke away from Scotty Mitchell, his manager, has made a big mistake. Mitchell made points of money for Cooper while he had him. In one bout alone, that with Benny Leonard in Jersey City, Cooper was allowed to \$2,575. This is a big amount for Cooper. In his bout with Mike Mitchell at Milwaukee he drew down \$500. Mitchell had him signed up for other bouts when he quit him.

Mickey Russell, the crack little Jersey City boxer, will meet Ralph Leroy, the Philadelphia fighter, in one of the six-round bouts at the National A. C. of Philadelphia tonight. Russell is one of the most promising little fighters in the business, and the chances are that he will have no trouble in outpointing Leroy.

Another eight-round bout has been added to the card arranged by the Bayonne A. A. for next Tuesday night. Jimmy Powers of West Hoboken meets Danny Parsons of Newark and Jimmy Sullivan of Hoboken, former welterweight champion of the A. A. T. will look up with Rocky Lyons of Hoboken.

Madison, N. J. E. Doherty of the National A. C. of Hoboken, who is placed with the Fighting Irish, will fight the Indian, and Larry Williams, light heavyweight, furnished at his own expense, will fight the fact that it was very doubtful that he is trying to win the main bout for the title. Although Turner got the decision, Williams put up a stiff battle.

Champion Benny Leonard, who fought Red Herring at Memphis, Tenn., last night, and also George Jake Allet, the northern fighter, for ten rounds at Atlantic City, on Monday night, will arrive home with his manager, Billy Wilson, on light Wednesday night. Benny is anxious to have in time to celebrate Christmas Day with his parents.

Jack Sharkey, who caused a sensation by defeating Jimmy Collins, the light champion of the world, in a ten-round bout at Milwaukee, is another fighter who is entitled to great credit. Jack has just bought a home for his old parents in Jersey where they can spend the rest of their days in comfort. It is said that Jack paid several thousand dollars for the home.

Patsy Dillon, the husky welterweight of this city, has just been signed up for another bout by his manager, Billy Wilson. The opponent will be Steve Lango, the rugged Italian fighter of Hamilton, Pa. They will battle for six rounds at a special show of the Grange A. A. of Philadelphia on the afternoon of New Year's Day. Claims to receive \$800.

Billy Hooks, who is now arranging the bouts for the boxing shows on his road to the Detroit A. C., intends to stage three important ten-round bouts for his next show on Jan. 7. He has offered Peter Cline a guarantee of \$1,500 to box Eddie Mitchell, but Cline's manager, Billy Norman, wants an option of a percentage of the gross receipts. Turner and Lyons will box on the same card.

Wrestling Show To-Night.

One of the best cards of wrestling contests staged in this city in many months will be presented to-night by Billy Roche at the Armory of the First Field Hospital, New York Guard, No. 55 West 66th Street, under the direction of Major J. Francis Damsuth. Three finish matches between leading mat artists of three different divisions will be decided. In addition there will be two handicap matches. In the main event, Wladis Zyzak, the "mighty" son of Poland, will tackle George Strambell, the "Siberian Giant," who will make his first appearance before a Metropolitan audience, although he has engaged in several contests in other cities with considerable success.

Young Clancy, the clear Baltimore feather-

Fistic News

John Pollock and Gossip

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CARPENTIER WILL SURPRISE DEMPSEY, SAYS McDONALD

English Promoter Declares Frenchman Compares Favorably With Best in History.

George McDonald, the famous English sportsman, is in town. The last time George was here he guided the pugilistic destinies of Matt Wells, then English lightweight champion, whose bout with Knockout Brown suspiciously opened boxing under the now defunct Flawley law in this State. McDonald, it is understood, and C. H. Cochran, promoter of the recent Carpenter-Beckett bout in London, who is now on his way here, are going to try to sign up Dempsey for a match abroad with the European champion.

"Carpenter will surprise Jack Dempsey, world's title holder, whom the two come together in a bout for the world's title," declares McDonald. "Carpenter will beat any man he can hit solidly," he added. "The French boxer has tremendous punching ability, and is wonderfully skilful and clever. Mind, I don't say he will beat Dempsey. I couldn't very well commit myself to that extent, for I haven't seen your champion in action. I will say without hesitation that any boxer who feels the full impact of his blows must experience defeat."

"I've seen many great fighters, including John L. Sullivan, whom I helped prepare for his memorable bout at Chantilly, France, against Charley Mitchell. In his fight against Beckett, Carpenter was convinced me that he ranked with the best of them. He didn't make an unnecessary move. He worked like a master and made every move count. Beckett hadn't a chance to get a strike before the match was over, and the blow that ended Beckett's interest in the bout did not travel more than a foot.

ing that Tammany story, and using with the utmost boldness the name of one of the biggest politicians in New York, were the ones who were taking all the New York money and backing Boston heavier than ever.

There was never the slightest evidence that there was any basis of truth in their charges.

When the same sort of rumors commenced to run through the followers of the world's series last fall I naturally believed that the gamblers were working the old gag. But the fact at once became evident that the money was being wasted the way the rumor ran. The fact was that the gamblers were slugging hard and "taking" some of the wisest doers and gamblers in the country.

In fact the first really suspicious thing that became public was when a gambler went to a club owner and told him that the men who were betting the big money were crooked and advised him to take a look around. He did so. All that was wanted to do but of the men who were gambling, and he stated frankly that anything they bet on heavily was crooked or they believed it to be.

The attempts of gamblers to reach big players have been increasing. In 1908, 1909 and 1910 a certain clique of Pittsburgh gamblers was extremely active. They formed the International number of the Chicago Cubs. Their object was not to influence games or players, but to find out in advance which pitchers were going to work in certain games. All they wanted to do was to have that advantage, being sure that if they knew the day Brown would pitch they could clean up.

Chance discovered this, ordered his players to stop. All they wanted to do was to have that advantage, being sure that if they knew the day Brown would pitch they could clean up.

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I am receiving word from a number of baseball people that a thorough investigation, cleaning up and the leaving out of the gamblers. The changed attitude of the owners is the pleasant. If they can drive out the gamblers there is no further danger of attempts to tamper with players.

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